Application No.: 10/759.746 17355CIP4 (BOT)

Fernandez-Salas, E., et al., Methods of Identifying Compounds that Alter Toxin Persistence and/or Protease Activity

PATENT IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant: Fernandez-Salas, E., et al.

Confirmation No.: 6885

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Group Art Unit: 1649 Examiner: Wang, C. Y.

Docket No.: 17355CIP4 (BOT)

Customer No.: 51957

Patent Title: Methods of Identifying Compounds that Alter Toxin Persistence and/or

Protease Activity

APPLICANTS' REPLY

June 29, 2007

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir,

This 15 page communication is responsive to a Final Office Action mailed March 29, 2007. The Office Action has been carefully considered, and the Applicants have the following comments:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of the Applicants' Reply and are reflected in the listing of claims.

Remarks begin on page 10 of the Applicants' Reply.

Appendix A is attached following page 14 of the Applicants' Reply.